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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Masatoshi TAKEDA et al.  
Serial No : 09 581,528  
Filed : July 7, 2000  
For : GENE MUTATED ANIMAL

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prepatory to examination of the above-identified patent application on the merits, the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 9, line 20, delete the following:

"5'-TGTGGTCGGGATGAMCGCCACCCACTGGAAAGGCCC-3'",

and substitute the following therefor:

---5'-TGTGGTCGGGATGATMGCCACCCACTGGAAAGGCCC-3'---

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 24 as follows:

24. (Amended) A plasmid comprising a DNA specified by the following